

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION**

STATEMENT OF BASIS

**APPLICATION FOR
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT
AND
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
TO
DISCHARGE TO STATE WATERS**

Public Notice No. 7-00-02
Application NPDES No. CA0105066
Board Order No. 00-020

Primary Power Management Development, Inc. (Owner)
Imperial Valley Resource Recovery Co. LLC, (Operator)
3505 Highway 111
Imperial, CA 92251

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the Regional Board proposes to adopt waste discharge requirements for the discharge. The tentative proposed determinations are described below.

Description of Proposed Discharge

Imperial Valley Resource Recovery Co. LLC submitted an application to update an NPDES Permit for their Brawley facility. This proposed Order updates Board Order No. 94-003.

The discharger operates a power generating facility that currently burns approximately 485 tons-per-day of wood waste as fuel to generate approximately 17 megawatts of electricity. The wood fuel consists primarily of construction waste, pallets, trees, and reclaimed landfill material.

The discharger proposes to discharge approximately 0.17 million gallons-per-day (MGD) of wastewater into a percolation/evaporation pond. The pond has an overflow weir to another smaller pond. The smaller pond collects much of the stormwater flow from the site. There is a gate on this pond that leads to Rose Drain. Currently, all of the wastewater either percolates to the groundwater or evaporates to the atmosphere. No wastewater is discharged to Rose Drain except when storm events threaten the structural integrity of the percolation pond. The location of the discharge to Rose Drain is in the NW 1/2 of Section 27, T14S, R14E, SBB&M. Rose Drain flows about five miles to the Alamo River which discharges to the Salton Sea.

Proposed Water Quality-Based Effluent Limitations

Effluent discharged from this facility could contain pollutants in sufficient quantities to affect receiving water quality. Pursuant to Section 13263, Article 4, Chapter 4 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act, the Regional Boards are required to issue waste discharge requirements for discharges that could affect the quality of the State's waters. Furthermore, Federal Regulations 40 CFR 122.1 requires the issuance of NPDES Permits, for pollutants discharged from a point source to the waters of the United States. The draft discharge requirements contain specific discharge limitations for selected pollutants. The rationales for each of the limitation is as follows:

<u>Constituents</u>	<u>Basis for Limitations</u>
Hydrogen Ion (pH)	pH is a measure of Hydrogen Ion concentration in the water. A range specified between 6.0 to 9.0 ensures suitability of the biological life. This limitation has been adopted in the Basin Plan of the Region.
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	High levels of TDS can adversely impact aquatic life. The TDS limit is based on the Basin Plan of the Region.
Settleable Solids	Settleable Solids should not be present above the limit described. These limits are based on the Basin Plan of the Region.
Total Residual Chlorine	High levels of chlorine can have an adverse affect on aquatic life. Chlorine is one of the chemicals used in treating the cooling tower water. This limit is based on the Basin Plan of the Region.
Toxicity	Toxicity testing ensures that the effluent does not contain metals, chemicals, pesticides or other constituents in concentrations toxic to aquatic life.
Copper, Zinc, and Chromium	High levels of these pollutants have an adverse affect on aquatic organisms and their uses (i.e. consumption by humans and wildlife) in the receiving water.

The discharge limits for the constituents that will be discharged from this facility to Rose Drain are based on the U.S. EPA numeric criteria for priority pollutants for the State of California.

Monitoring Requirements

Monitoring for those pollutants expected to be present will be required as shown on the proposed monitoring and reporting program and as required in item no. 6 below.

Information Sources

While developing effluent limitations and receiving water limitations, monitoring requirements, and special conditions for the draft permit, the following information sources were used:

- (1) EPA NPDES Application Forms submitted by the discharger.
- (2) 40 CFR Parts 117, 122, 123, 124, 136, 302, and 403.
- (3) Water Quality Control Plan (Colorado River Basin – Region 7) dated 1994.
- (4) Regional Board files related to Imperial Valley Resource and Recovery Co.
- (5) Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act with additions and amendments effective January 1, 2000.
- (6) Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California adopted March 2, 2000.
- (7) California Toxics Rule, published by May 18, 200 by U.S. EPA.
- (8) National Toxics Rule (NTR) adopted by U.S. EPA on February 5, 1993.

Written Comments

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on these draft waste discharge requirements. Comments should be submitted in writing by June 19, 2000 to:

Executive Officer
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92250

The application number should appear on the first page of any submitted comments. All comments received by the above date will be considered in the formulation of the final determinations.

Public Hearing

The waste discharge requirements will be considered by the Regional Board at a public hearing to be held at the City Council Chambers, City of La Quinta, 78-495 Calle Tampico, La Quinta on June 28, 2000.

Register of Interested Persons

Any person interested in a particular application or group of applications may leave his/her name, address and phone number as part of the file for the application. This list of names will be maintained as a means for persons with an interest in an application to contact others with similar interests.

Information and Copying

Copies of the application, proposed waste discharge requirements and other documents (other than those that the Regional Board's Executive Officer maintains as confidential), are available at the Regional Board office for inspection and copying.

For additional information, interested persons may write to the above address, or call Jay Mirpour, Sanitary Engineering Associate, at (760) 776-8966.